

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A customer information collection method in which personal information of an individual who downloads and uses digital information is collected as customer information by a third party other than said individual as a result of said third party acquiring rights to use said digital information, said customer information collection method comprising the steps of:

receiving an indication of a desire to use digital information from an individual,  
prompting said individual who has indicated said desire to input his/her own personal information as customer information,

collecting and compiling said ~~input customer~~ inputted personal information, and  
sending a password to said individual so that said individual can use said digital information while paying the fee for using said digital information to the owner of said digital information in accordance with the number of said password issued.

Claim 2 (original) The customer information collection method according to Claim 1, wherein said digital information is downloaded by said individual via an electrical communications means.

Claim 3 (original). The customer information collection method according to Claim 1, wherein said customer information includes at least information concerning the name, age, gender and e-mail address of said individual.

Claim 4 (original). The customer information collection method according to Claim 1, further comprising a step in which a collected customer information data is processed, and a database is constructed and controlled.

Claim 5 (original). A customer information collection system in which personal information of an individual who downloads and uses digital information is collected as customer information by a third party other than said individual as a result of said third party acquiring rights to use said digital information, said customer information collection system comprising:

a means which receives an indication of a desire to use digital information from an individual,

a means which prompts said individual who has indicated said desire to input his/her own personal information as customer information,

a means which collects and compile said customer information inputted, and  
a means which sends a password to said individual so that said individual can use  
said digital information.

Claim 6 (original). The customer information collection system according to Claim 5,  
wherein said digital information is downloaded by said individual via an electrical  
communications means.

Claim 7 (original). The customer information collection system according to Claim 5,  
wherein said customer information includes at least information concerning the name, age,  
gender and e-mail address of said individual.

Claim 8 (original). The customer information collection method according to Claim 5,  
further comprising a means in which a collected customer information data is processed, and a  
database is constructed and controlled.